

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 12994 041905Z

62

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-05 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-12 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-03

SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 SS-20 NSC-07 DRC-01 /147 W

----- 002748

R 041728Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4502

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12994

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ETRD, EIND, EEC, UK

SUBJECT: UK VIEWS ON EC PUBLIC PROCUREMENT POLICY

REF: (A) STATE A-7074, (B) EC BRUSSELS 7662

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED HMG ATTITUDE TO EC GOVERNMENT
PROCUREMENT POLICY WITH MCKEAN, UNDER SECRETARY AT
HM TREASURY. HE SHOULD BE PROTECTED FULLY AS THE
SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION.

2. MCKEAN SAID THAT THE 1969 COMMISSION DIRECTIVE
IS BEING APPLIED IN THE UK "AS MUCH AS IT IS IN THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 12994 041905Z

OTHER MEMBER STATES." IN PRACTICE, THE GENERAL

PRINCIPLES IN THIS DIRECTIVE DO NOT HAVE MUCH EFFECT UNTIL THE COMMUNITY ADOPTS ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTING DIRECTIVES.

3. THE UK IS COMPLYING FULLY WITH THE 1971 COUNCIL DIRECTIVE ON PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS, ACCORDING TO MCKEAN. IT HAS RECEIVED "ORACTICALLY NO APPLICATIONS " FROM FIRMS IN OTHER MEMBER STATES, HOWEVER, FOR THE CONTRACTS WHICH IT ADVERTISES IN THE COMMUNITY'S OFFICIAL JOURNAL.

4. AS FOR THE DIRECTIVE ON THE SUPPLY OF PRODUCTS WHICH IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION, MCKEAN SAID THAT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT IT WILL BE APPROVED, AS INTENDED, BY THE END OF THIS YEAR. THERE ARE DIFFICULT SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEMS TO BE RESOLVED, INVOLVING THE THRESHOLD AND TREATMENT OF REGIONAL AIDS. IN ADDITION, THE OTHER MEMBER STATES ARE NOT PREPARED TO AGREE THAT TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PURCHASED BY THE BRITISH POST OFFICE (A NATIONALIZED INDUSTRY) SHOULD BE EXEMPT, WHILE EQUIPMENT PURCHASED BY THE OTHER POST OFFICES (WHICH ARE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS) IS INCLUDED.

5. APART FROM THESE PROBLEMS, MCKEAN SAID, A LABOUR GOVERNMENT IS NOT LIKELY TO AGREE TO THE DIRECTIVE UNTIL THE PROCESS OF EC RENEGOTIATION IS COMPLETED. SOME LABOUR MINISTERS (MCKEAN MENTIONED WEDGWOOD BENN IN PARTICULAR) BELIEVE THAT THE DIRECTIVE WOULD INTERFERE WITH BRITAIN'S FREEDOM TO PURSUE CERTAIN KINDS OF INDUSTRIAL POLICIES. MCKEAN DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE DIRECTIVE WOULD POSE THIS KIND OF PROBLEM, BUT THIS ISSUE IS NOT LIKELY TO BE RESOLVED WITHIN HMG UNTIL A FINAL DECISION IS MADE ON BRITAIN'S CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY.

6. MCKEAN CONFIRMED THAT THE UK HAS ASKED THAT

COMPUTERS BE EXEMPTED FROM THE DIRECTIVE (SEE REF B).
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LONDON 12994 041905Z

ANNENBERG

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, TELECOMMUNICATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, COMPUTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON12994
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740282-0456
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741073/aaaacjym.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE A-7074, (B) EC BRUSSELS 76, 62
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UK VIEWS ON EC PUBLIC PROCUREMENT POLICY
TAGS: ETRD, EIND, UK, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005